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Attorney for *Amicus Curiae* Colette’s Children’s Home

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ORANGE COUNTY CATHOLIC) Case No. 18-cv-00155-DOC-KES
WORKER, an unincorporated)
association; Lisa Bell, Shawn Carroll,) NOTICE OF <i>AMICUS CURIAE</i>
Melissa Fields, Larry Ford, Cameron) LETTER AND SUPPORTING
Ralston, Kathy Schuler, Gloria Shoemake,) EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF
as individuals,) PLAINTIFFS' APPLICATION FOR
) PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION
Plaintiffs,)
)
vs.)
)
ORANGE COUNTY, the City of)
Anaheim, the City of Costa Mesa, and the)
City of Orange,)
)
Defendants.)

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EXHIBIT A



7372 Prince Drive, Suite 106 Huntington Beach, CA 92647 Phone: (714) 596-1380 Fax: (714) 848-1866

February 9, 2018

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is William O'Connell and I am a city council member of Huntington Beach, a city of over 200,000 residents. This is some of my involvement in Orange County:

- Elected by 34 mayors from Orange County to serve on the Board of the Commission to End Homelessness. Recently the commission was dissolved by the Board Chair and Board of Supervisors and failed to accomplish its mission.
- Elected by 34 mayors from Orange County to serve on the Housing Community Development Commission.
- Sit on the Prop 63 Mental Health Steering Committee.
- Serve on the board of directors at the Orange County Food Bank, one of two food banks which provides hundreds of thousands of meals to Orange County residents.

I have witnessed the failed leadership of local, county, state and federal government to address the issue of homelessness. Today I write this letter as the founder and Executive Director of Colette's Children's Home (CCH), which has provided housing and supportive services to over 4,300 homeless women and children throughout Orange County. CCH started from the tailgate of a pick-up truck and is now one of the largest transitional housing providers in Orange County today.

In 2017, CCH had requests from 4,733 homeless women and children seeking shelter and supportive services. CCH housed and served 543 homeless women and children (11% of requests received). 267 (76%) of the 351 women and children who left the program entered permanent housing. 157 (80%) of the women that we served secured and/or maintained employment. We also helped reunify 25 mothers reunified with 40 children.

Attached is detailed information regarding the successes and challenges of the need for housing and supportive services in Orange County and the capacity to provide it. We do not have the housing and resources to meet the needs of the homeless in the community.

Sincerely,

William O'Connell

Executive Director

coletteschildren@aol.com



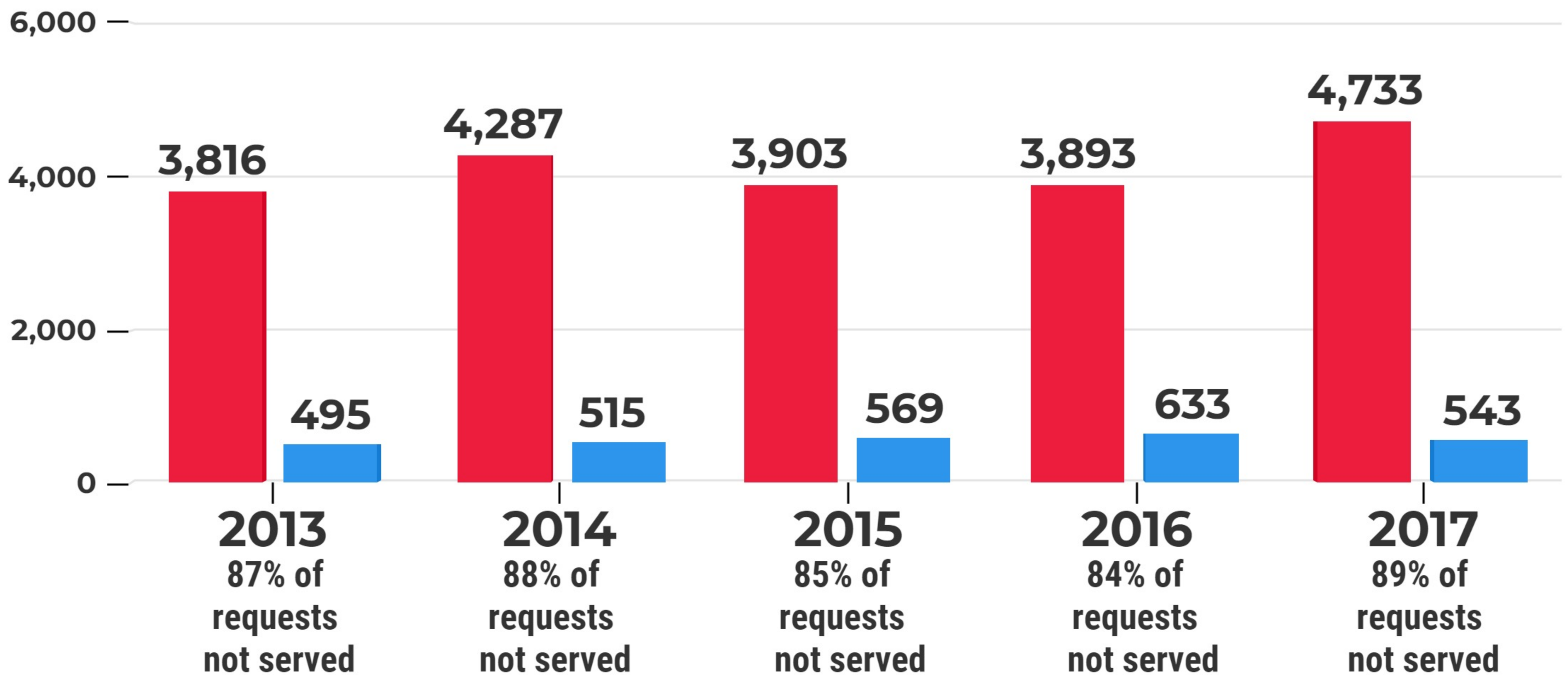
Colette's Children's Home

7372 Prince Dr. Suite 106, Huntington Beach, CA 92647

714-596-1380 | www.coletteschildrenshome.com

Requests Received vs. Homeless Women and Children Served

● Requests ● Served



The need for housing and supportive services far outweighs the capacity and resources available to serve the homeless population. Over the last 5 years we were able to provide housing and supportive services to an average 13% of the homeless women and children requesting services.

20,632
Requests

17,877 Not Served

2,755
Served